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# **GCSE EXAMINERS' REPORTS**

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**PSYCHOLOGY (LEGACY)**

**SUMMER 2018**

Grade boundary information for this subject is available on the WJEC public website at:  
<https://www.wjecservices.co.uk/MarkToUMS/default.aspx?l=en>

### **Online Results Analysis**

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### **Annual Statistical Report**

The annual Statistical Report (issued in the second half of the Autumn Term) gives overall outcomes of all examinations administered by WJEC.

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**PSYCHOLOGY**  
**GCSE (LEGACY)**  
**Summer 2018**  
**UNIT 1**

**Question 1**

- a) i) and ii) These were generally well answered with most candidates achieving at least partial credit although some candidates did not refer to an example from everyday life and consequently received no credit.
- b) i) Generally well answered by most candidates who could clearly describe the features of the Sherif experiment although some candidates confusing the Sherif study for the Asch study and consequently received no credit.  
ii) Many candidates wrote very generic answers explaining two weaknesses with most receiving full credit.
- c) Very mixed responses to this question. Some candidates gained full credit for naming a strength and a weakness of the Asch experiment. Unfortunately, some candidates misread the question and gave two strengths and therefore received only partial credit.

**Question 2**

- a) Most candidates achieved full marks.
- b) Most candidates achieved full marks or partial credit. A lot of candidates confused clairvoyance and psychokinesis and matched up the definitions incorrectly.
- c) Generally well answered with most candidates putting forward arguments for and against the existence of ESP and referring to specific research.

**Question 3**

- a) Generally well answered with most candidates receiving full credit. However, some candidates failed to state operant conditioning and consequently received no credit.
- b) Most candidates received full credit for clearly describing social learning theory.
- c) This was a poorly answered question with many candidates not describing the Watson and Raynor study correctly. A lot of candidates confused this for Bandura's Bob doll experiment.
- d) This was generally well answered but some candidates only received partial credit as they did not refer to an art lesson in their answer.

**Question 4**

- a) This question was generally well answered,

b) There were mixed answers to this question with some candidates describing the Friedman and Rosenman study in detail but many confusing this for the research on life events and consequently receiving no credit.

c) This question was linked to 4b and consequently the candidates who answered 4b incorrectly also answered this question incorrectly.

### **Question 5**

a) This was generally well answered with many candidates receiving full credit.

b) i) Unfortunately, this was a poorly answered question with many candidates not knowing the name of the researcher.

ii) Most candidates did know the study and were able to write a clear conclusion from the results.

c) This was a well answered question with most candidates listing two or more ways of overcoming prejudice.

### **Question 6**

a) This was generally a well answered by most candidates but some candidates confused sex and gender definitions and consequently received no credit.

b) This tended to be fairly well answered with most candidates discussing both sides of the argument. Although some candidates merely referred to the Money study with no reference to the statement and consequently received only partial credit.

**PSYCHOLOGY**  
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**UNIT 2**

**Question 1**

- a) This question received a mixed range of answers with many candidates not naming the definitions clearly and just describing them. These answers only received partial credit.
- b) This was generally well answered although some candidates confused ECT for psychosurgery and vice versa.

**Question 2**

- a) Most candidates were able to define what is meant by a survey and received full credit.
- b) This question was poorly answered by many candidates who clearly did not know about Ceci's research.
- c) i) Most candidates were able to write a clear aim although some still posed this as a hypothesis (statement) and consequently received no credit.  
ii) This question was well answered with most candidates showing their working out and receiving full credit.
- d) This question was well answered with most candidates drawing an accurate bar chart which was clearly labelled.

**Question 3**

- a) Most candidates were able to write a clear hypothesis although some still posed this as a question and consequently received no credit.
- b) This answer was again well answered with most candidates clearly explaining an advantage and a disadvantage of random sampling.
- c) Most candidates could clearly name two other sampling methods although some wrote random sampling and therefore received no credit.
- d) i) A lot of candidates did not refer to the study when they explained ethical issues and consequently only received partial credit.  
ii) Generally this question was well answered.

**Question 4**

- a) Most candidates clearly drew a scatter gram and received full marks, although some candidates tried to plot a bar chart and received only partial credit for the labelling of axis.
- b) Most candidates drew an accurate conclusion even if they had plotted data incorrectly.

c) Mixed answers were given to this question with some of the advantages and disadvantages not applying to correlations and consequently receiving no credit e.g. lack of ecological validity.

### **Question 5**

a) i) and ii) both parts of this question were generally well answered.

b) This question was generally well answered although some candidates did not refer to the study and consequently only received partial credit.

c) i) Most candidates were able to correctly name the independent and the dependent variable.

ii) This was the poorest answered question with many candidates simply not knowing the three experimental designs.

### **Question 6**

a) i) A well answered question with most candidates being able to give two disadvantages of Piaget's research.

b) This was a poorly answered question with many candidates referring to the ZPD and consequently receiving no credit.

c) A wide range of answers were given to this question with many candidates describing all three modes and receiving full credit; although some candidates referred to visual, auditory and kinaesthetic learning and consequently received no credit.



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